

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 10 of page 11 and ending on line 2 of page 12 of the specification as follows:

a | Describing the address learning process in more detail, the main search block 26 searches whether a corresponding information (such as address information, port information and etc.) exists in the address table 50 of the main search block 26 about the destination and source addresses (Step 140). When a corresponding information exists (Step 140 = Yes), the main search block 26 performs an information update operation desired by the system including an address aging. Herein, the address aging means clearing old address data, i.e. address data which are not used for a predetermined period, from the addresses stored in the address table 50 of the main search block 26 (Step 157). Performing the information operation including the address aging like this can establish new information as address data. When a corresponding information does not exist (Step 140 = No), the address learning operation is performed. The address learning is generally performed by an external processor, and data insertion is carried out into the link structure by using hash within the main search block 26 (Step 143). In other words, the search information (such as MAC address, port number and add command) connected in respect to the corresponding source address is provided by the external processor, but actual operation to connect data to the link according to the hash key is carried out in the main search block 26.